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Healing our youth through sport

By Steve Bonspiel

Eeyou Istchee needs individuals like Gordon Hudson in Mistissini. Hudson puts in a tremendous amount of hard work and overtime as Mistissini's Director of Youth Services with the Cree Health Board. But the best part is he also opens various activities up to all nine communities.

I first met him at an Ottawa Renegades game in the nation's capital in October 2004. With him was a throng of cheering, wide-eyed youngsters from all over Eeyou Istchee. It was his first attempt at bringing the kids to southern locales to show them something new and exciting. For some, it was a first time out of their community.

That visit came on the heels of a youth football camp that attracted Renegades' players and Head Coach Joe Paopao. They did the same thing the following summer.

Hudson's aim is to make sure the kids are aware of the opportunities out there and, on a personal level, make sure they don't commit the same mistakes he's made. "I struggled with alcohol and drugs, but I've overcome it for over eight years now and I want to pass along these positive messages to these kids so hopefully they don't make the same mistakes I did."

Someone like Gordon Hudson should be heralded and looked up to as a role model. He almost single-handedly took the bull by the horns and created opportunity for kids that they normally would not have had.

The football camps he helped to create have come a long way. They will be expanding this summer to separate coastal and inland camps. Coach Joe Paopao has moved onto the Hamilton Tiger Cats of the Canadian Football League but will be coming back to Mistissini for a third straight year.

Discussions with the Montreal Alouettes to visit Chisasibi during their off-week are ongoing, but it's "almost a done deal," according to Hudson.

A pan-Eeyou Istchee flag football league is nearing reality, thanks largely to these camps – and Hudson.

Hudson, himself a former pro football tight end, loves the game dearly, but he also realizes the need to promote hockey and basketball; two sports many youngsters in the nine communities already participate in.

Although the kids don't pay anything to attend these excursions, they have raised quite a bit of money through various fund-raising activities in the community, such as cutting wood for elders, and helping with the New Year's celebration. The kids raised \$12,000 on their own and for a trip to see the Ottawa Senators, for example. They were also asked to write an essay on why they'd like to participate and encouraged to keep their grades up if they wanted to go on more outings.

Hudson and his workers brought the kids to an Ottawa Senators game to see the Sens and San Jose Sharks practice on January 12. They also got an amazing opportunity to meet Jonathan Cheechoo, and, later that night, watch the game.

The exposure for the Cree Nation in the southern media is important as well. Ignorance and racism against Crees is based on the fact that most non-natives don't personally know any. These trips help to dispel the negative connotations people have of Crees.

Next stop Toronto; for two Raptors games at the end of March. Discussions of inland and coastal hockey camps with former and current NHLers like Steve Yzerman, Marc Denis and Kevin Dineen will be announced shortly as well.

Hats off to Gord Hudson and his crew, they are truly making a difference for the future generations.

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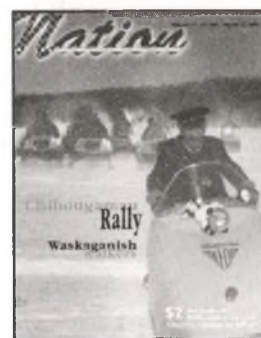
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on the cover

Photo: Will Nicholls

Design: Martin Dubé

Great Scot!



One thing that many Cree and Inuit have in common is an ancestry that comes from across the ocean. Some have French, some have Scottish or English, but most who do have some European ancestry are not even aware of it.

I like to keep in touch with the other half of my gene pool on occasion and go back as far as I can go in history. I can go back to the East India Company (on my father's side), the Revillon Freres trading company (on my mother's side) and to my great grandfather (who was named Nero and was Inuk), so I can count back four generations. I'm not sure if we have any North African blood, but I highly doubt that, given that the family name of Herodier comes from the Herodians, who, some claim, go back to Mary Magdalene's exodus from the Holy Land a few millennia ago.

Given such a diverse family background for many Cree, it can be said that there are many other (other than Cree) families who have been assimilated into the Cree milieu. Some just a few decades ago, some back a century, but all have something in common: they all lived off the land for survival and came from somewhere else.

I understand people when they point out my features and associate me with mixed blood. I've heard it all before, and somehow, my skin thickened and racism became fodder for my jokes and my puns targeted those who have only one blood in them.

Today, given all diversifications,

there are Cree out there with North African blood, South American blood, Jewish blood, Mexican blood, American blood, French and English blood, and the blood of all bloods, bloody Scottish blood. So I am not alone in the Cree world and neither is the gene pool when it comes to mixed bloods.

So how do I account for all this mixture? Well, it tells me that I cannot afford to be racist, or I would be racist against myself, and who's crazy enough to do that?

It has been said that 70 per cent of all people from Quebec have some native blood in them, so what's with the obsession with distinctions and keeping blood pure -- the talk that often spurs talk of separation. Why bother?

One day soon all people will have similar features because inter-racial relationships are becoming more and more common. Heck, one cousin of mine married an Asian (which leaves only the Aborigines of Australia left to tackle and perhaps a Sami or two), much to the chagrin of his family, but hey, love knows no boundaries.

Still, the world has a lot to learn from the Cree, such as tolerance for other religions and peoples. Today, religion-wise, there are four or five Christian denominations, a few new-agers, perhaps some hidden Satanists, a new resurgence of our own beliefs, and at the same time, four different languages are spoken, enabling us to fit comfortably in any environment. All this among 15,000 people and within 30 years' time.

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Canada

Squatter eviction time in Abitibi-Témiscamingue

By Amy German

Photo courtesy of *the Nation* archives

For the past seven months, the Ministry of Natural Resources has been tracking the camps of illegal squatters who have come to the Abitibi-Témiscamingue region to hunt and stay on the land without permits.

This month, however, dozens of hunting shacks and other structures built by the squatters will either be dismantled or burned to the ground by the ministry with the help of a helicopter service.

Lise Guerin, a spokesperson for the Ministry of Natural Resources, said the ministry

structures and belongings. Once the ministry discovers an area that is being squatted they post a notice saying that whoever built the structure must report to the ministry and dismantle what they have built. Some of these notices have already been up for seven months.

Unfortunately, it is very difficult to track down whoever built the structures. Says Guerin: "If people do not report back to the ministry, we have no way of knowing who they are and no way to prosecute them. When people do report to the ministry, what we do is try to find them accommodations."

For those who wish to hunt on public property or participate in other outdoor activities in the area, the Ministry will happily provide them with a spot to set up camp provided they pay the permit. What

they do not guarantee, however, is that visitors will actually get the area originally selected.

The Ministry of Natural Resources will burn down camps in cases where they can not be dismantled.

"We are doing this out of a question of integrity, to preserve the integrity of public land of the property," said Guerin.

Anyone who sees or is aware of illegal squatters on the land is invited to report it to either the SQ or to contact the Ministry of Natural Resources.

"If people do not report back to the ministry, we have no way of knowing who they are and no way to prosecute them."

has identified 38 structures to be dismantled. "But it is impossible to know exactly how many illegal shacks are around," Guerin admitted.

It's illegal to build hunting shacks without a permit, which cost \$80 for one year.

"People pay to get permits for chalets or improvised structures; those are two different types of permits," Guerin explained. "It's not fair to those who do pay for their permits to build."

For the most part, these hunters are heading to the area to hunt moose.

The squatters have had ample notice to remove their

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From the start you could tell that this Special General Assembly of the Grand Council and the CRA would be preoccupied with Hydro-Quebec's EM-1 and Rupert Diversion Projects.

The tone was set when one delegate said the Cree School Board presentation was too long. "We're here to talk about EM-1 and the Rupert Diversion," he said.

Thomas Coon of the Cree Trappers Association added to the climate when he said, "EM-1, for some, it's a celebration, for me, it's a funeral." He talked about God's plans as he saw them. "He delegated the Cree nation to be the protectors of his creation."

No one actually got up and spoke in favour of the hydro-electric dams though some urged caution.

Host Chief Robert Weistche of Waskaganish, the Cree community at the mouth of the point where the Rupert River drains into James Bay,

also had issues with Rupert River Diversion.

"The Rupert River was not a promise," said Weistche, adding that the diversion itself should have been part of the Paix des braves referendum. He also questioned whether there was an informed Cree consent because of this.

Weistche said that if the project does go through, Waskaganish will show up with a shopping list. "Our water supply has to be guaranteed. We want a paved road to the highway. There will be a lot added to this list as we will lose access to resources we have at the present. Solutions will have to be found."

Weistche added he had serious concerns and reminded Grand Chief Matthew Mukash that while he was on the campaign trail Mukash talked about saving the Rupert River "with strong statements."

Nemaska Delegate Bertie Wapachee said, "The Cree Nation should put all of the

AGA 2006 @ Waskaganish

Story and photos by Will Nicholls



COMEX hearings on the Rupert Diversion on JBCCS (Cree regional radio). I'm talking from morning until they are finished. The consultations are supposed to be public so let's make them public."

Chisasibi Chief Abraham Rupert asked for a Special General Assembly to focus on the Rupert River Diversion because there wasn't enough time to cover all the issues

connected to the diversion. "We shouldn't be looking at the cost of the assembly but the future costs to the Cree if we don't have this assembly. We must not forget that's who we are... the land."

Jane Blacksmith, a Mistissini delegate, talked about suicide rates in all of Eeyou Istchee and said that the Grand Chief and the Deputy Grand Chief have to start taking a leader-





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ship role in tackling this issue. Chisasibi's Abraham Rupert also mentioned the high suicide rate in his community.

This Special General Assembly may have helped heal some old wounds from past projects. George Visitor, a Chisasibi delegate, brought up the fact that his community was supposed to get some funding from the 1986 La Grande Agreement.

"Chisasibi is still waiting for the \$26 million. One community representing a third of the Cree Nation voted against. Will there be any interest on the past 20 years?" asked Visitor adding, "I think it's time. It's our time. It's time to settle this for once and for all."

From the community in question, Mistissini Chief John Longchap agreed, saying both Chisasibi and Mistissini have agreed to arbitration. "The

funding is related to Cree traplines that were lost or affected as a result of the La Grande Project. Most people forget that Mistissini lost traplines too. If Chisasibi is to be compensated for that then so should Mistissini. This is all we are saying," said Longchap.

A report on the Cree/Federal Negotiations was given to the Special Assembly. This will be covered fully in the next issue of *the Nation*. It is similar to the Paix des braves deal.

Nemaska Chief Josie Jimikin did a presentation of the potential of wind power as an alternative to the Rupert Diversion.

Three resolutions were passed and can be found on page 23.



Nouchimii Cup 2006

Cree Nation of Nemaska
Here are the official results of the Nouchimii Cup
held in Nemaska on February 24-26, 2006.

Women's Broomball

2006 Champions Mistissini Glaciers \$5,000/Team banner
2006 Finalist Waskaganish Wildcats \$3,000/Team banner
Final score: 2-0 Mistissini Glaciers

Consolation Champions Chisasibi North Stars \$1,500
Consolation Finalists Nemaska Capitals (one prize for consolation)
Final score: 3-0 Chisasibi North Stars

Individual awards:

| | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Best Goalie | Rebecca Cowboy | Nemaska Capitals |
| Top Scorer | Priscilla Wapachee | Nemaska Capitals |
| (Tie) | Paulette Lameboy | Waskaganish Wildcats |
| Best Defense | Pierrete Salt | Waskaganish Wildcats |
| Best Forward | Erica Stephen | Waskaganish Wildcats |
| MVP | Rosie Coonishish | Mistissini Glaciers |



in brief



Men's Open Hockey

2006 Class B Champions Waskaganish Renegades \$5,000/
Team banner
2006 Class B Finalists Chisasibi Hunters \$3,000/
Team banner

Final score: 3-1 Waskaganish Renegades
MVP Class B Final Game Darren Moses Waskaganish Renegades

2006 Class A Champions Mistissini Trappers \$10,000
2006 Class A Finalists Waskaganish Rapids \$6,000
Final Score: 3-2 Mistissini Trappers (Overtime)
MVP Class A Final Game Rodney Hester Mistissini Trappers

Individual awards:
Best Goalie Darren Peace Waskaganish Renegades
Top scorer Darren Moses Waskaganish Renegades
(Tie) Reginald Gilpin Chisasibi Hunters
Best Defense Joel Iserhoff Mistissini Trappers

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RALLY 2006

Story and photos by: Will Nicholls

The Chibougamau International Rally has always been a hotspot for sporting action of all kinds. The Rally continues to be one of the premier events of the winter season for the Chibougamau region. It has changed a bit though. It used to be Rally weekend, when racers came from all over the world and the bars stayed open 24 hours a day. The pace has changed from the fast lane of piling race upon race over the weekend to a week-long gala. The bars no longer stay open for 24 hours but the party continues amidst the races.

The racers are still coming from all over. Each year sees more Crees competing, each with their teams of racers and mechanics. The trail for the cross country is now more of a super long track. It takes about 20 minutes to do a circuit. In the past it was one cross country long trail starting and ending at the Camp à Jo lodge after three or more hours of grueling endurance. The racers weren't sure whether or not it was better when asked, but they are willing to see where the new style leads.



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| | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|------------|
| 1. No. 41 Karl Allard | La Dore | 3,23,56,03 |
| 2. No. 07 Steve Girard | Chibougamau | 3,31,24,80 |
| 3. No. 51 Dave Asselin | La Dore | 3,41,19,93 |
| 4. No. 43 François Pare | La Dore | 3,47,35,60 |
| 5. No. 04 Steve Frechette | Chibougamau | 3,25,38,59 |
| 6. No. 82 Alexandre Pepin | Victoriaville | 3,34,56,03 |
| 7. No. 27 Serge Audet | Chibougamau | 3,38,15,47 |
| 8. No. 214 Kevin Morin | Val d'Or | 3,38,34,60 |
| 9. No. 25 Jean-Guy Aucoin | Cheticamp | 3,40,07,58 |
| 10. No. 19 Nicolas Lampron | St. Etienne des Gres | 3,41,57,99 |

Amateur Results

| | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| 1. No. 1 Kenneth Coonishish | Mistissini | 1,01,58,32 |
| 2. No. 8 Etienne Lauzier | Amqui | 1,02,55,18 |
| 3. No. 3 Adam Voyageur | Chibougamau | 1,03,48,34 |
| 4. No. 44 Romio Coon | Mistissini | 1, 01,29,04 |
| 5. No. 23 Louis-Rene Benjamin | Chibougamau | 1,01,51,60 |
| 6. No. 2B Lucas Brunelle | Boucherville | 1,02,11,45 |
| 7. No. 18 Tyrone Iserhoff | Mistissini | 1,03,13,91 |
| 8. No. 93 Eric Bouchard | St. Felicien | 1,03,43,28 |
| 9. No. 69 Eric Belanger | Pierrefond | 1,03,58,37 |
| 10. No. 54 Sylvain Paquette | N Dame Lorette | 1,04,40,68 |

Women's Results

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. No. 114 Stephanie Simard | Chibougamau |
| 2. No. 105 Vanessa Simard | Chibougamau |
| 3. No. 95 Melina Neeposh | Mistissini |
| 4. No. 15 Stacy Ann Coonishish | Mistissini |

Master's Results

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. No. 41 Marc Lepage | Alma |
| 2. No. 5 Francine Bouchard | Chibougamau |
| 3. No. 24 Francis St. Laurent | St. Bruno |
| 4. No. 33 Denis Predneault | Gatineau |



No. 1 Kenneth Coonishish Mistissini



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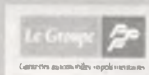
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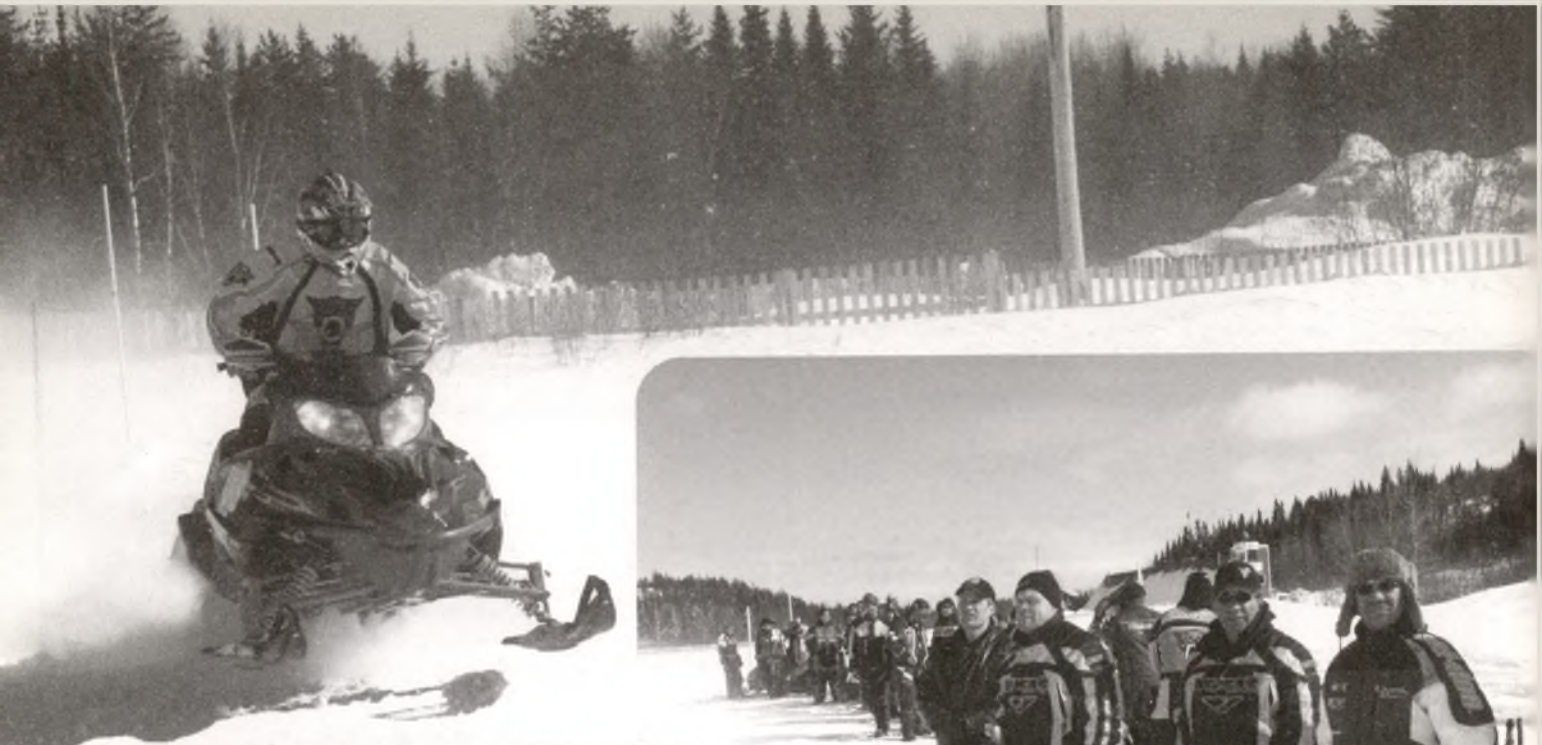
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| 4. Larry Desgagné | 79 |
| 5. Marc Savard | 78 |
| 6. Evens Bouchard | 77 |
| 7. Martin Audet | 76 |
| 8. Veronique Boissoneault | 76 |
| 9. Eric Verreault | 75 |
| 10. Julien Richer | 74 |

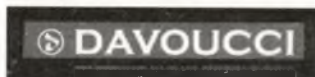
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Aashuumiih 2006

Story and Photos by Will Nicholls



Aashuumiih translates from Cree to English as "pass it to me." To the people of Waskaganish this means the transfer of traditional knowledge from one generation to the next. Stacy Bear, the Waskaganish Youth Chief, said these trips are open to ages 13-29 "but it's mostly those aged 13-17 that participate."

The Aashuumiih journeys started eight years ago. Only one year has been missed and that was the result of an early spring contributing to unsafe conditions. The average journey is about two weeks long. Participants left on February 16 and arrived in Waskaganish March 1. Each year has seen more youth joining the Aashuumiih experience.

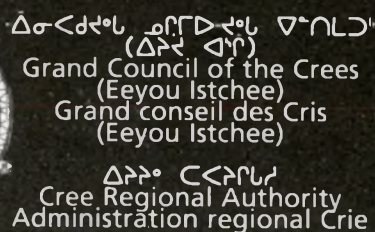
Bear said this year was a first. "The number of female participants is growing. The first journey had no females at all, and this year there were more females than males," she said.

The Nation asked Bear what she saw as the purpose of Aashuumiih. "The purpose of this project is to engage the youth of Waskaganish in the practice and pursuit of the traditional Cree way of life and to facilitate the transfer of traditional knowledge from one generation to the next," Bear said. "Upon completion of the program, the participants will have been trained and equipped with Cree survival skills and possess an extended knowledge of our ancestral homeland."

Did the journey achieve its goals? "I hope so," she answered with a laugh.

The Cree Trappers Association first came up with the idea and concept of Aashuumiih. Later, the project was handed over to the youth council to run, said Bear.





Attention to:

18 *the Nation* March 17, 2006 www.beesum-communications.com/nation

"This was my first year putting this project together," noted Bear. "I sought funding from organizations that I thought would be willing or had an interest in preserving the Cree traditional way of life, and the promotion of wellness."

This year's sponsors were the Waskaganish Youth Council, Niskamoon Corporation, Waskaganish Elders Council, Waskaganish Youth Department, and Waskaganish Wellness Society.

Bear told *the Nation* that she and the youth chiefs before her have been proud to be a part of Aashuumihi.

Waskaganish Chief Robert Weistche echoed her pride in thanking all of the Special General Assembly delegates for coming and honouring the youth who braved the stormy weather to go on this journey. "We are still practicing our way of life. We are still teaching our children that way of life. I thank the Creator for his many blessings and for the safe journey." Weistche said, "Aashuumihi brings a lot of pride to family and friends of the Cree youth who go on this journey."



Aashuumihi Winter Journey 2006

Head Guide - Danny Whiskeychan

Assistant Guide - Starr Hester

Female Guide - Janie Salt

Resource people -

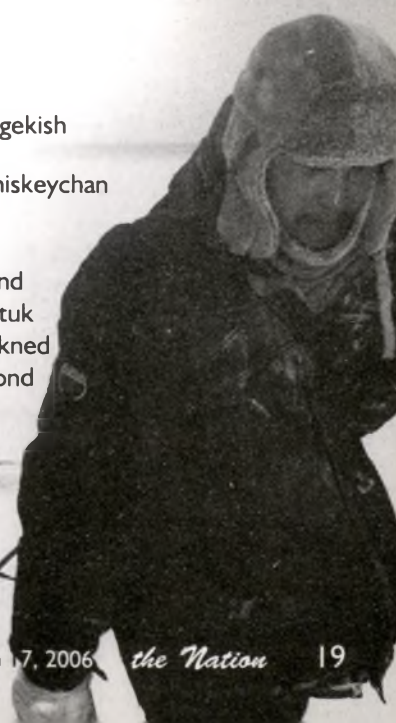
Agnes Stephen and Allan Georgekish

Road Runners -

Walter Stephen and Darryl Whiskeychan

Participants

| | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Kurtis Cheezo | Sharon Diamond |
| Trevour Esau | Kristen Katapatuk |
| Nathan Stephen | Samantha Blackned |
| Rupert Gilpin | Carlene Diamond |
| Ashley Hester | Claudette Salt |
| Shirelle Jolly | Serena Jolly |



I had a vision...

There was a king in the Old Testament who was troubled by dreams he had been having and so he gave a decree that they seek throughout his kingdom for anyone that could interpret his dreams. They found such a man and his name was Daniel.

I call upon all Daniels in the Cree territory to interpret the meaning and the significance of the following dream taking into consideration the present situations we as a Cree Nation are in today.

During the time of the community consultations regarding the agreement in principle for a new relationship which was reached between the Grand Council of the Crees of Eeyou Istchee and the Government of Quebec; I, like many of the Cree people in Eeyou Istchee, was deeply preoccupied by what this meant when we the Cree Nation were entering the new millennium. The positions taken by various camps in the Cree territory were many and heartfelt as the people laid out their hearts for the love of this land. The leadership was certain that this was the direction we needed to go. One night I went to bed and I received this dream....

I saw the community of Waskaganish pass by quickly, I realized that I was in a canoe and that I was handling the front end of the canoe. In no time at all we were at the mouth of the Rupert River heading out into the bay. In this dream, the state of the river itself was not revealed to me. As we ven-

tured out towards the open water of the bay I asked my partner that maybe it would be better for us if we hugged the shoreline. I turned around to see who it was that was handling the rear of our canoe and lo and behold it was Matthew Coon Come. Matthew as you all remember was National Chief of the Assembly of First Nations at the time of these consultations. While I was in this position of looking over my shoulder I noticed that in the distance another canoe was heading in our direction. I indicated to my partner that we should slow our pace and wait for the canoe to catch up to us. When the canoe caught up to us I noticed that it was being manned by one paddler and it was my daughter Kitty Irene. "I have come to see with you the future that is to be revealed to you," she



stated as she wiped the sweat of her brow. So this was the purpose of our journey.

We continued on our journey and soon off in the distance I saw an island and a canvas tent that looked very inviting to a group of weary travelers. In a while we were there on the shore beaching our canoes and making our way up the incline towards the tent. What was strange about this experience was that no one had come out of the tent to greet us at the shore as is the custom of our people, nevertheless we were here at the entrance to the tent and I flipped open the beautifully embroidered canvas skeuatem to enter.

What greeted our eyes and our appetites was a feast of the finest Cree-prepared wild game that is available out on the land. There was fish, moose meat, moose nostrils,



moose head complete with moose ear lobes and moose intestines. There was bear meat, blueberry paste and hot bannock on a stick and a pot of

tea. I noticed squatted on the carpet of fresh spruce boughs the hosts that were so generous to prepare all this food for us. There was my late stepfather Billy Jolly, my mother and those of you who remember Ronnie Jolly of the Cree Hunters of Mistassini and the late Clara, his wife. After we had feasted we were prepared to continue on our journey. The late Clara inquired if we were the ones sent to see what the future will look like for the Cree People. I answered, yes, indeed that is what our journey was to reveal to us. She says as you head out continue to follow the shoreline and take the first river that comes out, follow this river and it will reveal to you the future that awaits the Cree people. We paddle up this river which starts off wide but then later it narrows and eventually just meanders very lazily as we went along.

During this period of community consultations one of my grandchildren had let us know that she was interested in owning and looking after a pet dog.

As we came across the numerous grass-covered points along this meandering river I was surprised to see on one of these points a wolf laying on top of this grassy point and playing along side her were these two beautiful puppies, yes puppies not wolf cubs. I noticed that this wolf was lame, I noticed that she was trying to get up but she was not able to move her hind legs, she was dragging her hind legs. I remember telling Matthew "my granddaughter had asked for a puppy," noticing that the wolf was not able to move. I asked Matthew to pull the canoe up close and hold down the wolf with his paddle while I take the puppies from her. The wolf was not able to do anything to defend the pups.

We headed out once again but because the river was meandering we would have to come back on the rear side of the point where the wolf lay. In leaving the wolf I notice that she is howling for her pups the howling was probably the most lonesome of all animal cries that I have ever heard. When we did finally pass the point again I notice that the wolf had dragged herself into the

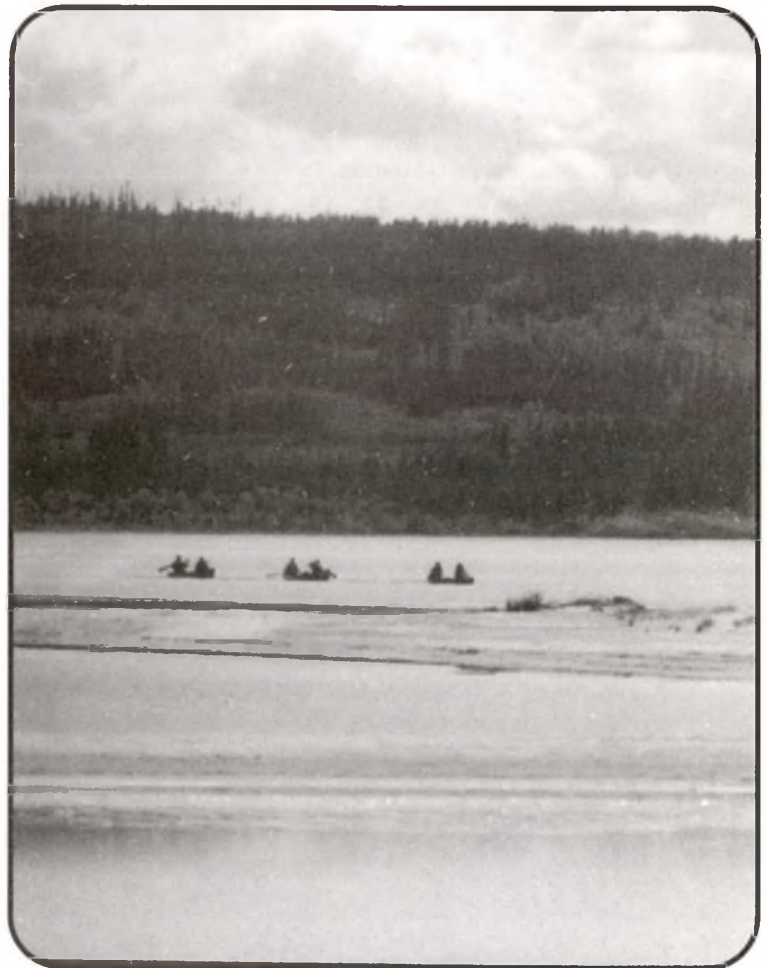
water and was wading towards us, we didn't pay that much attention to her. As we headed out I noticed that her howling had taken on other sounds and noises that begged our attention. I looked back at her one more time just in time to see that she was changing and taking on this human form. What I was looking at now was this native person standing in the water. His face was worn and weather beaten, his eyes were sunken and hollow, his hair was in disarray and he looked absolutely drained and ready to give up on life. His jacket was a worn suit coat typically worn by our people from that time period and in his hand was a rifle. In a voice that quivered he cried out to us, "Give me back my children." We paid no attention to him and continued paddling. Again he cried out, "Give me back my children."

A shot rang out and in front of the canoe this water stood up where the bullet had landed. We turned the canoe around, the warning shot had gotten our attention. In doing so the native person's shoulders dropped, his arms dropped and in a defeated voice he said, "Go ahead, take my children, you keep and raise them I can no longer raise and care for them, for there is nothing

left out here on the land." With that this human form turned towards the shore and again turned back into a wolf dragging his hind legs and sat on the grassy point where we had found her, the final cry she let out was a haunting one, a cry that sends chills up and down your spine.

We continued on our journey just enjoying the silence and the sound of nature all

around with fish every now and then breaking water all around us. The river now seems to be widening again and just about the time we needed a much-deserved break we came across a camp and as we neared it, the camp dogs started barking to let the camp know that mandowch were approaching. Three elders came to the shore and helped us beach our canoes. Kitty Irene, though tired and weary, was still with us. The three elders invited us in to join them in one of the tents for some fresh nouchii-mii tea and hot bannock. When we had finished our snack and laid back awhile one of the elders asked us if we were the ones sent to see what the future looks like



for our people. I replied yes indeed we were. "From this point of your journey we will accompany you," and with a motion of his lips to show respect for the river he pointed to an area across the river where we were to beach our canoes and from there would walk the rest of the way.

We were now three canoes in the water and one of the elders took and handled the

front end of Kitty Irene's canoe. Kitty enjoyed the comfort and the confidence of her new travel companion. No sooner were we in the water when we had to beach our canoes and travel the rest of the way by foot. The footpath was well beaten and it looked like it had been used regularly. The walk was easy as we traveled with our elderly friends and the pups which I had picked up were playfully running on ahead of us very much enjoying this part of our journey. In the distance we can see the tree line thinning out and the air was dif-



ferent, it felt very humid and as we drew closer to the opening that would reveal to us what was on the other side it got a little exciting. We saw this huge body of water and it didn't make sense because we had been traveling inland, this could not be another section of the bay. In this huge body of water with no docking facilities were three cargo ships and a steady stream of canoes traveling to and from these ships unloading and beaching the cargo. One of the elders spoke and told us that these ships have been out on this bay now for a very long time and that the operations of unloading the ships has been happening generation after generation and it never seems to end. We continued walking along the shore carefully observing the ceaseless activity of the unloading and beaching of these ships.

In the distance we saw another lining of trees and beyond that we were informed by the elders, lay the future of our people. I could not tell what was on Kitty's mind as we got this far in our journey but whatever she felt was comforted by the elder by her side never leaving her always communicating with her. I felt confident that she could handle whatever it was that was to be revealed to us on the other side.

As we reached the thinning of the tree line, the sun seemed to shine a bit brighter than we were used to and the air was different, we were breathing air generated by new growth of vegetation. We saw, for as far as the eye could see open fields with crops oh so fresh. One of the elders pointed out this is now how our people provide food for themselves. We continued on our Journey walking along the roads of this fresh crop and again another line of trees can be seen in the distance. The road leads to this line of trees and for awhile we break away from the road that revealed to us the new growth from which we were to survive as a people.

We saw the trees again thin out and again to reveal to us what else the future held. The next clearing revealed open fields and huge smoke stacks billowing smoke into clear blue sky. The elder with his

hands open points to this scene and says, "This is where the people now work to provide for their young." Kitty Irene was still with her elder companion she was now starting to look drained, but the elder was there constantly comforting her. In the distance we saw roads and highways complete with overpasses and people driving everywhere and we saw communities now complete with comfortable housing and all necessities to function as municipalities should. We saw all the modern conveniences and services available to everyone else now available to the people by the people. There we stood, the three of us including Kitty Irene and our three elders just immersed and silenced by what was revealed. The dream had ended here.

In February of 2002 the Paix Des Braves agreement was signed, forging a new relationship between the Grand Council of the Crees of Eeyou Istchee and the Government of Quebec on a Nation to Nation basis.

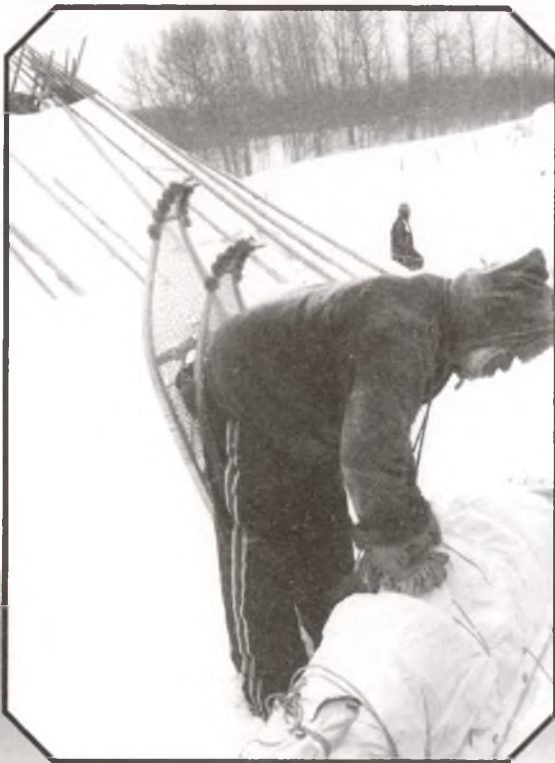
Now Daniel, what is the significance of this dream?

I encourage the Cree nation to build upon this dream. Take it apart, get your own interpretation and build your vision statements around it, build your economic development strategies around it build your political, social and educational agendas around it

I encourage you to take the significance of this dream and use it in your workshops, use it in your planning sessions, use it in your social sciences classes.

William Mianscum
16 Wabushush, Mistissini
P.Q. GOW ICO
(418)923 3216
wmianscum@cscree.qc.ca





RESOLUTION 2006-03

SUBJECT: (Eeyou Eetoun)

WHEREAS the members of the 2006 Special General Assembly have raised a number of issues related to Eeyou Eetoun;

WHEREAS there is a continued commitment by Cree Leadership and the Cree Nation to the preservation, protection and promotion of Eeyou Eetoun;

WHEREAS the current context of negotiations, development and reviews of programs, policies and structures dictates the need for the convening of an Assembly of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority to discuss the fore mentioned aspects of Eeyou Eetoun;

IT IS RESOLVED

THAT the members of the Special General Assembly of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority hereby call for the convening of a General Assembly of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority to discuss the preservation, protection and promotion of Eeyou Eetoun in the context of Cree Self-Government and the development of natural resources in Eeyou Istchee to be held in the community of Chisasibi in June 2006.

Proposed by: Chief Robert Weistche

Seconded by: Isaac Meskino

Carried: March 2nd, 2006





RESOLUTION 2006-06

SUBJECT: Suicide Prevention

WHEREAS the members of the 2006 Special General Assembly have discussed the need to address the alarming suicide rate in Eeyou Istchee;

WHEREAS the members have further identified the need for the issue to be addressed at a community level with the assistance of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority and the Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay;

WHEREAS the members have identified the specific needs for assistance in the areas of prevention, intervention and postvention and local training requirements;

IT IS RESOLVED

THAT the members of the Special General Assembly of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority hereby mandate the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority and the Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay to provide the necessary assistance at the community level in Eeyou Istchee to address the issues of prevention, intervention and postvention in regards to suicide and the establishment of protocols for families, caregivers and community members.

THAT further each community allocate the appropriate financial resources to support the realization and implementation of the fore mentioned protocols.

Proposed by: Mary Bosum

Seconded by: Susan Esau

Carried: March 2nd, 2006



RESOLUTION 2006-04

SUBJECT: Wind Energy

WHEREAS the members of the Special General Assembly of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority have received a presentation from the Nemaska Working Group on Energy and Sustainable Development;

WHEREAS the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority have already passed a Resolution calling for a unified approach towards the development of wind energy projects in Eeyou Istchee;

WHEREAS the members are in agreement that advancement must be made on the development of a Cree Nation Wind Energy initiative;

IT IS RESOLVED

THAT the members of the Grand Council of the Cree (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority Annual General Assembly hereby mandate the Steering Committee on Wind Energy to continue working towards the development of a Cree Nation initiative for the development of wind energy projects in Eeyou Istchee.

Proposed by: Justice Coon Come

RESOLUTION 2006-05

SUBJECT: Whapmagoostui Access Road

WHEREAS Whapmagoostui is the only Cree community without an access road;

WHEREAS the other communities of Eeyou Istchee have support the members of Whapmagoostui in the past in their pursuit of an access road;

WHEREAS the community of Whapmagoostui is seeking to develop a local transportation network involving all terrain vehicles, marine vehicles and automobiles to assist in the pursuit of traditional activities;

WHEREAS the Government of Quebec is in the process of developing a Transportation Plan which touches the traditional lands of Whapmagoostui;

IT IS RESOLVED

THAT the members of the Grand Council of the Cree (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority Special General Assembly hereby express continued support to the community of Whapmagoostui in the pursuit of an access road;

THAT representatives of the Grand Council of the Cree (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority are hereby mandated to seek inclusion and prioritization of a Whapmagoostui access road in the





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UNDER THE NORTHERN SKY

WHY SHOULD ANYONE GO HUNGRY?

by Xavier Kataquapit

Most North American cities and towns are connected by road, rail and air. Food comes into these communities easily. We have produce from all over the world and lots of it. I, like everyone else these days, think nothing of being able to visit any given city or town and be able to find food anywhere. There are restaurants, cafes and cafeterias, if we plan on sitting down and eating away from home. If we plan on dining at home there is a great selection of grocers, food markets and convenience stores. There is never a big hassle or chore when it comes to figuring out where to get food.

The selection and choice for eating has always been special to me. Back home there are not a lot of restaurants. Every once in a while someone will try to start a restaurant business to fill the void. However, the small population of the community and the cost of carrying on a business in the north usually mean that these ventures don't last long. In fact, our family decided at one point to develop an eatery. We worked two years at it, but the high cost of food, electricity and maintaining a staff killed the idea. It seemed as if the idea of starting a restaurant in Attawapiskat was like passing the Olympic flame from one person to another. Once we ended our business, another family would try the restaurant dream and set up a business. Most often they would last a year or two and then disappear. Happily, my sister Janie has been having good success at running her coffee shop and the future looks good.

We had enough food at home when I was growing up but it always felt like we were missing out. Mom prepared large meals and everyone had their share in our family of nine children. However, it was a scramble for seconds. Mom and dad did not have the luxury of buying extras for any one of us. Candies of any sort, chips, cookies, pop or anything with sugar or salt never lasted long in our house. We would gobble them up as soon as we saw them. I remember one day, a family member arrived from Timmins with a party package of donuts from Tim Hortons. This was the first time I had heard of the coffee shop chain and I instantly became addicted to their donuts. Later on I became a slave to their coffee.

When I first came to live in the south to start high school I was amazed at the selection of restaurants. I was also surprised

at how easy it was to buy food at the many grocery stores. I looked at Timmins as a kind of giant buffet. To go to a restaurant, you drove around town to review the choices of where to eat and once the decision was made it was fill-your-face time. If you were in a hurry, you didn't even have to leave your car to order food through a fast food restaurant window. Wow, food on the run.

However, I was surprised and disappointed at the amount of waste that came with this convenience. I felt guilty as I entered the lifestyle of greedy gut. I sometimes ordered so much that I could not finish half of it.

Back home, our Elders, grandparents and parents taught us to appreciate and respect any kind of food we received. It is part of our culture and this belief comes from the fact that we have had to face many hardships in the past when our people depended on the skills, knowledge, ability and luck of the person who collected the food. Mother Nature was our restaurant and grocery store but it took a lot of energy and knowledge to be able to shop on the land. There are many stories of starvation and hunger from long ago and some accounts from the not-so-distant past. We were taught never to waste anything. We never complained about the quality of our meal or whether we got enough. As a matter of fact, it was considered bad luck or a bad omen to waste food.

We are out of control when it comes to eating. I think most of us have lost a lot of respect for the food that comes to our table. Perhaps if we had to hunt it for days, skin it and cut it up we would feel differently. Maybe if we had to grow it and take care of it for months before harvest we would have a different view on the value of food.

In North America, we live at the top of the food chain. We have as much as we want while those on First Nation remote communities sometimes go hungry. A huge percentage of the world's population is actually close to starving and thousands of people actually die every day of hunger. That sounds impossible but it's true. We have to start thinking about sharing more of our food with others and making it possible for them to enjoy even a fraction of the good life we have. If we don't, we will pay for this greed somewhere down the line.

The Nation

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| June 9 | 13-15 | May 26 |
| June 23 | 13-16 | June 9 |
| July 7 | 13-17 | June 23 |

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Commission fédérale
d'examen

COMEX

Projet Eastmain-1-A et Déivation Rupert

AVIS PUBLIC

Le Comité provincial d'examen (COMEX) et la commission fédérale d'examen annoncent les endroits où auront lieu les audiences publiques dans les 6 communautés crie:

Mistissini (15 mars) :
Centre jeunesse

Nemaska (21 mars) :
Complexe sportif

Eastmain (4 avril) :
Complexe sportif

Wemindji (11 avril) :
Salle communautaire

Waskaganish (30 mai) :
Place de rassemblement

Chisasibi (6 juin) :
Centre Mitchuap

Pour des renseignements:

Bureau d'information publique
www.bip-pio.qc.ca

Robert Bellizzi
Agent de recherche et
de communication
277, rue Duke (bureau 103)
Montréal (Québec) H3C 2M2
Tél.: (514) 871-8378
Téléc.: (514) 871-0859

Agence canadienne d'évaluation
environnementale
www.acee-ceaa.gc.ca
/010/0001/0001/0017/index_f.htm

Nicholas Girard
Conseiller principal
en communications
160 rue Elgin, 22ième étage
Ottawa (Ontario) K1A 0H3
Tél.: (613) 957-0958
Téléc.: (613) 957-0946

Federal Review
Panel

COMEX

Eastmain-1-A and Rupert Diversion Project

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Provincial Review Committee (COMEX) and the Federal Review Panel announce the locations for the public hearings in the six Cree communities:

Mistissini (March 15):
Youth Centre

Nemaska (March 21):
Sports Complex

Eastmain (April 4):
Sports Complex

Wemindji (April 11):
Community Hall

Waskaganish (May 30):
Gathering Centre

Chisasibi (June 6):
Mitchuap Centre

For information:

Public Information Office
www.bip-pio.qc.ca

Robert Bellizzi
Research and communication
Officer
277 Duke Street, Room 103
Montreal, QC H3C 2M2
Toll-free: (877) 880-8378
Fax: (514) 871-0859

Canadian Environmental
Assessment Agency
www.ceaa-acee.gc.ca
/010/0001/0001/0017/index_e.htm

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Tel.: (613) 957-0958
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EMPLOYMENT

JOB OPPORTUNITY

(External/Internal Posting)

POSITION: Manager Kanio-Kashee Lodge
TERM: Full-Time (six month's probation)
SALARY: According to Qualifications, Experience & Budget
DUTIES: As Per Listed (but not limited to)

The Board of Directors of the Auberge Kanio-Kashee Lodge is presently seeking applications for the position of Manager for the Kanio-Kashee Lodge. On a full-time basis, the Manager of the Lodge must oversee the complete running of the Lodge along with direct control of all staffing such as: staff scheduling, restaurant inventory, hotel inventory, marketing, and day to day problems and reports directly to the Chairman or Vice-Chair.

Responsibilities:

The Manager of the Lodge must have the ability to plan, organize, direct and control the operations of the Lodge. His/her duties as the Manager are as follows: (but are not limited to)

- a) Develop and implement policies and procedures for the operations of the Lodge.
- b) Prepare budgets, monitor revenues and expenses, and control inventory.
- c) Participate in the development of pricing and promotional strategies.
- d) Negotiate with suppliers for the provision of materials and supplies.
- e) Negotiate with clients for the use of the facilities for conventions, banquets, receptions, etc.
- f) Recruit and supervise staff, oversee training and set work schedules.
- g) Monitor staff performance and supervise personnel files.
- h) Resolve customer complaints and ensure health and safety regulations are followed.
- i) Other related issues as they develop.

Employment Requirements:

1. Secondary V graduate + a college diploma or a university degree in hotel management or other related discipline is required. However, a minimum of Secondary V and a combination of training and experience in the area of the above responsibilities may be considered.
2. The ability to speak Cree and French would definitely be an asset. The successful candidates should have good oral and written communications skills, good computer skills and knowledge of Maitre'd and QuickBooks. He/she must have knowledge of the Cree's of the Waskaganish First Nation.
3. Must possess some managerial and supervisory skills as well as exhibit a professional attitude in dealing with internal and external staff and/or clientele. He/she must be honest, trustworthy, well mannered and the ability to work either independently with little supervision or, as a team member.

All interested candidates should submit their application and resumes no later than **March 24, 2006 by 5:00 pm**. All applicants will go through a screening process and only the candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.

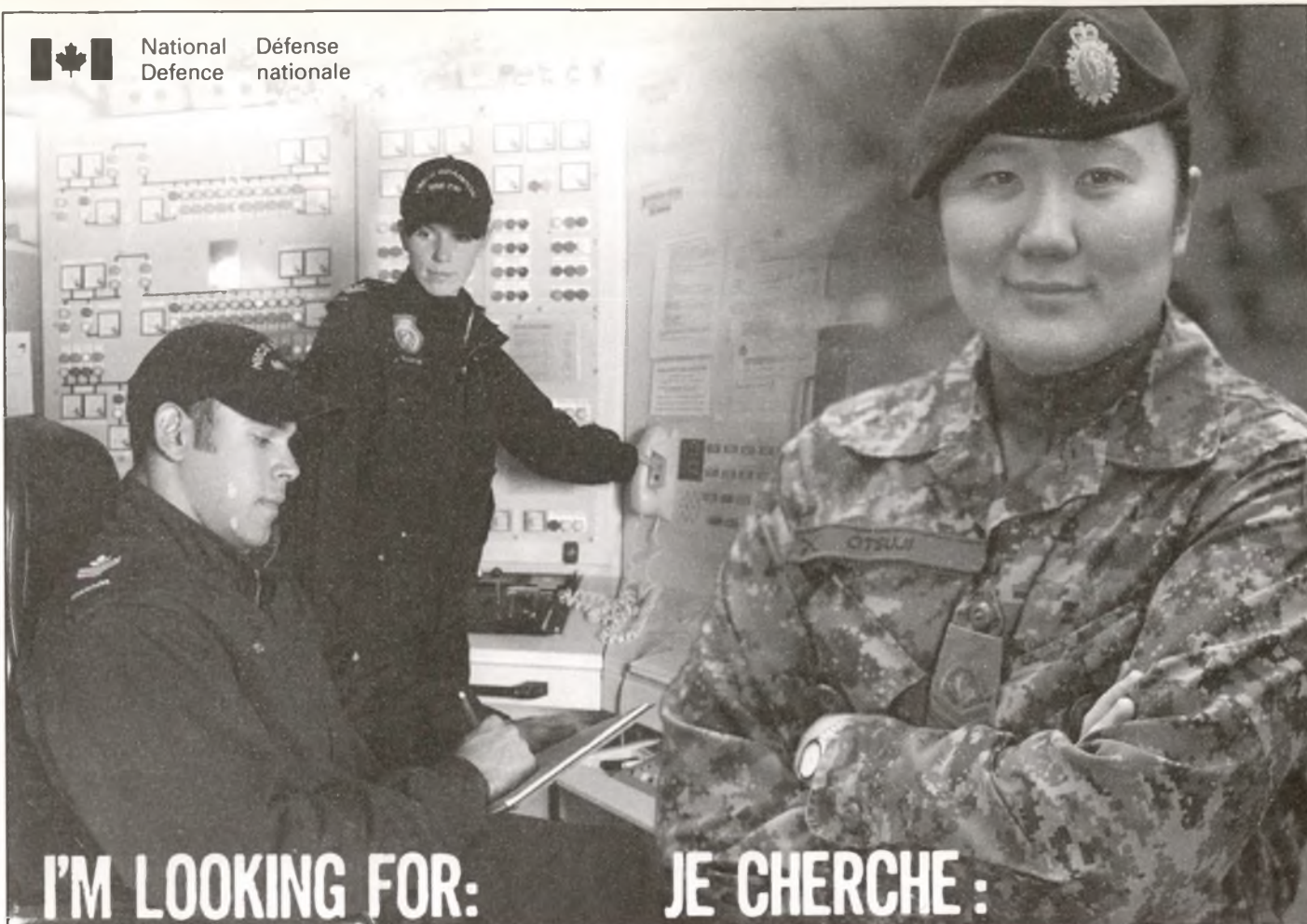


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Congratulations to my brother Eugene Neeposh and his girlfriend Hillory Kitchen on the safe arrival of their first baby boy Phoenix William James Neeposh. Born on February 24/06 at 9:59pm, weighing 9 pds. I finally have a nephew! I fell in love with Phoenix the moment I saw him, he's very precious to us. Take care of your little guy. Love you all, auntie Queenie & Harry Ottereyes xoxoxo

BIRTHDAYS – 101

We would like to wish a happy birthday to our cousin Delonda Hester on March 10, 2006. Happy birthday!! Delonda. Fr: your cousins: Clayton, Karilyn, Jeremy, Trevor and Travis fr; Wask...

I would like to wish happy belated 13th birthday to my good friend Justin Coon, which was on February 18th.

turning 5. Can't wait to see
you blow out your candles.
We love you very much.
From Mom Stephanie, Dad
Romeo and your sister
Toronna.

We are sending birthday greetings to a sister/aunt in Eastmain. Jane's birthday is on March 3rd. Happy Birthday and many more to come from Dina and Melissa. xoxoxoxoxoxox-
xoxoxoxoxoxo

Wishing a Happy birthday to my husband Lanny Gilpin on Feb 26, 2006. Lanny, I'm so glad to have you in my life. Being with you means so much to me and I cherish every moment with you and our children. I'm so blessed having you guy's in my life and everyday I'm thankful. Happy birthday Lanny and I love you so much. Oh happy Valentine's Day too. With love always from your wife Pamela in Eastmain.

2006. We know this is kind of late Uncle but better late than never, right Uncle Kurt. Once again Happy Birthday and many more to come. Love from your niece & your nephew, Angel and Mario from Eastmain. Happy Valentines Day too Uncle!!

To my beautiful daughter Siikun Wapachee. I want to wish you happy birthday on March 23. Also I want you to know that I love you like a circle. Love Always, Mom xoxo...

We would like to wish a happy birthday to Jonathan Otter on March 4. Have fun on your special day just as you are. We wish you all the best and we love you. From: Romeo, Stephanie, Toronna and Lianne xoxox.

Birthday greetings going out to someone special in my life. Nookum Agnes Georgekish will be celebrating her 72 birthday on March 5, 2006. I love you so much. Once again Happy Birthday Googoo. With love D-DAH.

I want to wish nookum Agnes Georgekish a Happy Birthday on March 5, 2006. Happy Birthday Googoo and I love you even though that I pull your hair sometimes and when I fight you..lol

Once again Happy Birthday and many more to come. I love you so much. From Marcus Georgekish (Wask).

I would like to wish my one and only nephew Abraham Noah Shecapio a Happy belated Birthday on March 1st, 2006. I miss you and I love you. Hope to see you soon. When I get back I'll be your sitter while mommy and daddy are working. I can't wait to see you. Take care, with love your Auntie Jane.

We would like to wish a happy birthday to our son Brent Husky on Jan 23. Wow, you are growing so fast and you bring us so much happiness and joy, each moment we shared with you since you came into our lives. You bring us so much love & laughter in our lives. We love you sooooo much. Happy birthday love. With lots of love mommy, daddy & baby sister Kris-Ali...p.s Kris-Ali says I'm gonna put my brother for sale .lol.

Uhhh... we would like to send a special birthday greeting to these special people in our lives:

First: to Angelina Gunner on March 7 'WOW' your 22 yrs old now girl. Happy Birthday 'Googosh.' We love you and we will always be here for you love, mom and dad. Second: to Anita trapper on March 7 too. 'Hey you're 22yrs old, Happy Birthday 'Dida.' We love you so much. You are getting older now. You were so tiny



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when you were born, and now you're all grown up. Love always, Mom and Dad. Third: to Annette-Daisy Trapper on March 11. My, my you're already 19 yrs old. I think you don't need an escort anymore..lol jk. Happy Birthday Ann and many more to come. Don't worry, you're catching up with your sisters...lol. Love always, Mommy and Daddy and to our one and only son, Redfern Trapper on March 15. Happy Sweet 16 'Red and many more to come love always Mom and Dad. We thank the good lord for blessing us with 4 beautiful children. We cherish the four of you in our hearts and we will always be here for all of you through good times and bad. We love you so much. Once again, Happy Birthday from: Mom (Caroline) and Dad (Malcolm Trapper).

We would like to wish my nephew/cuzin, Romeo Napash Happy 11th Birthday on March 1, 2006. We love you so much and we wish you many more birthdays. Love from your auntie and your cuzin Sebastien in Mississini.

Belated Birthday greetings going out to Gilles Allan on February 15/06. Happy Birthday Dad! With lots of love, Anita, Cal, Marina, and baby Martin Keyshawn Lawrence. Mmwaa!!!

Sending Birthday Greetings to the following

People who will be celebrating their Birthdays in the month of March 2006: Mr. Mark Sam on the 4th, my Aunt Daisy Georgekish from Wemindji on the 19th, My Mom/Grandma Nellie, my Niece Crystal-Lynn Cromarty, my friend Daisy House-Lameboy, Debbie House & Kathleen Kitty all of them on the 21st. Also to my cousin Christine Sam on the 22nd. May all of you be blessed with many Birthdays. With love, Jennifer, Robert, Ethan, Richard & Baby Tommy from Ojay.

Happy 5th birthday to a very special little guy BRANDON H.BLUEBOY on March 28th. Be careful wild thing..don't blow your candles too hard, your cake will fall off the table..lol.jk. Anyway, happy birthday again and many more to come....With Love, Auntie Diane & your cousins, Collin, Marlana & Kaylyne.

Wishing a happy birthday to the Eeyou Estchee's greatest dad from Wemindji, Stanley Shashaweskum. Who will be celebrating his special day on March 6. We hope you enjoyed your day and many more to come. With love: your daughters, Sabrina & Diana xoxox

16 years old Niko! Wow!! I still remember the day when your mother brought you into my life for the very first time..but the thing I can't

believe is that it happened 16 years ago..I sure am getting old eh?...lol..I just wanted to wish you a very happy birthday!..lord knows you deserve it boy! Not too much action now ay!?...lol..meaning..you don't have to drink to have fun, you're just gonna get sick the very next day anyway! I just hope you have fun! Do you want a birthday party?...or r u too old for that now?...lol..we love you so much Niko! Happy sweet 16th birthday our handsome nephew!...Love always: Andrew & Pamela xoxoxoxoxo (Was)

On March 4 someone very special in my life will be celebrating her birthday.My mom, Mary Gull (Wask). My mother, the queen of my heart. All my life you've been there. Any time and any where. When I was young, and even now that I am older. I have always known you've done the best you could. Circumstances change, lives change, but family ties are strong. I want you to know how much I respect what you have done for me. I thank you mother. In your own special way, the many things you've done, all the times that you were there, help me know deep down inside, how much you really care. Even though I might not say I appreciate all you do,

richly blessed is how I feel having a mother like you. I love you mom and I miss you.Hope you enjoyed your special day. All my love, your daughter: Alice.P.S. Thanxs for everything mom & dad. Luv you all and miss you all.

This will be my second attempt at sending you a message for your birthday, my son Casey Lee Mianscum. I can remember writing something like this: I would like to send some belated birthday wishes to some people who mean a lot in my life. First, a belated birthday wish goes out to you my son Casey. I want you to know what you may face in life I will be there for you, these five words I say to you. Do the words sound familiar to you, guess which singer sings this song. Anyway, I mean the words I tell you. Soo, dear readers my handsome son was born to us on January 25,1984 @ 2:27 a.m, Twenty-two years ago. Happy Belated Birthday, Casey. Wow, how time flies. I love you my natawa-shiem! Love always, Mom.XXXXOOO. P.S. A correction needs to be done for my daughter Amanda Mianscums' age, she will not turn seventy, she turned sweet seventeen on January 30, 2006. God, that made me feel old when I read the birthday wish in the last Nation magazine.



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Public Notice

Société de développement de la Baie-James

Registration on the Société de développement de la Baie-James (SDBJ) Suppliers File

Within the framework of its call for tenders process by general invitation, the SDBJ invites contractors interested in becoming a part of its supplier file, to present their candidacy for certain auxiliary services of which the estimated cost is equal or superior to \$100 000 but lower than \$1 000 000. The supplier file will be valid for the years 2006, 2007 and 2008.

The auxiliary services targeted include the following specialities:

- General cleaning and maintenance;
- Building renovation;
- Road snow and ice removal;
- Parking lots and lot snow and ice removal;
- Mechanical bush clearing;
- Gravel/stone crushing;
- Grain sifting;
- Road maintenance;
- Bulk shipment.

ONLY SUPPLIERS THAT HAVE A PLACE OF BUSINESS IN THE JAMES BAY TERRITORY AND THAT WILL HAVE OBTAINED THEIR APPLICATION FORM DIRECTLY FROM THE SDBJ WILL BE CONSIDERED.

By business place, the SDBJ means: "Establishment where the supplier exercises his activities in a permanent manner according to the nature of these, clearly identified in his name, accessible to the public during normal office hours, grouping together accredited representatives of the supplier and permanent resources."

Suppliers interested in presenting their candidacy can obtain the registration form at the following address:

110, boul. Matagami
P.O. Box 970
Matagami (Quebec) J0Y 2A0
Tel.: (819) 739-4717, ext. 264 or
mat@sdbj.gouv.qc.ca

Interested suppliers should send their candidacy by means of a single (1) duly completed and signed form, including a non-refundable \$50 payment (including taxes) per registration, at the above-mentioned address to the attention of Mrs. Chantal Brassard with the mention "Auxiliary services supplier file".

Additional information can be had by contacting Mrs. Chantal Brassard at (819) 739 4717, extension 264, or by fax at (819) 739 4329.

Candidacies may be submitted at any time, at SDBJ offices in Matagami.

The SDBJ reserves the right to accept or reject any candidacy and to request complementary documentation after said candidacies have been received.

Josée Roy, CA
Administrative Manager
and Secretary-Treasurer

Québec 

We would like to wish our Son Curtis Bosum Jr. Happy 5th Birthday on March 28, 2006. Remember son that we love you so much and you mean the World to us. With lots of love your parents Darryl & Karen and lets not forget your sister Tianna.

PERSONAL – 300

We want to say hello to our hockey boys attending high school in Rouyn-Noranda. The Bantam AA are Kurt Hester, Kelvin Blackned, Delmer Moses and the Peewee AA player is Mr. Brett Hester we are all rooting for you Rouyn Huskie Boys.. keep it up, remember your hard work will be worth it, so never give up. from the ppl who love n miss you in Waskaganish GO GO GO!!!

Looking for an old friend whom I've lost contact with. So Doris Gunner where are you? How's your two girls? We have lots to talk about. Pauline M. O'Gushing, (905) 230-1970.

On March 8, it's Woman's Day. I would like to honor 3 women: my biological mother for giving me life, my sister Susan for taking me in when I first went to Waskaganish to find my biological family.

To my daughter's biological mother for giving Life and giving her up to us to love as our own child.

Thank you to all 3 of you!! From me, Judy in Oujebougoumou.

My name is Reginald Bixler and I am a Cree Indian. I am 33 years old. I am a Correctional Officer for the Federal Bureau of Prisons. I was born in Winnipeg, Manitoba. I was adopted when I was 5 years old. I was raised in Trevorton, Pennsylvania. I was interested in getting to know some information about my culture

and career opportunities that may be issued to me. I thank you for your time and consideration. rbixler@bop.gov

My friend sent a congratulations to her son Darry Hughboy on his graduations from Police Training in Nicolet.....there was an error and it needs to be corrected. It was supposed to read: 'Your ups and downs, I knew it was hard being away from your wife Karen, daughter Tianna and Curtis, but you did it.' Agooda!!!

I would like to send my love to our two little angels in our lives; Jacey Leigh Otter & Josie Ann Otter, from Waswanipi. It was so nice to see you girls again. My heart got all warm inside, I miss you girls always, and often think about you. It's too bad that you girls never call us anymore. My love won't change anything – no matter how hard it may be to reach you, my love for you girls will never fade. I love you both. I miss you being around me, a lot. May God bless you. From your Googoom, Diane Snowboy /family, in Chisasibi. You may be far away, but you'll always be in our hearts.

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS – 400

The Native Women's Shelter of Montreal now has a 1-800 number. You can now reach us toll-free at: 1-866-403-4688. Please check out the new website at: www.nwsm.info and feel free to give us any feedback. Do you need help? Someone to talk to? Call the Kid's Help Phone's toll-free number, at: 1-800-668-6868 or check out their website at: www.kidshelp.sympatico.ca.

Cree Nation of Nemaska proudly presents its

11th Annual Cree Nation Fitness Challenge

Dates: July 28-29-30, 2006

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For more information regarding
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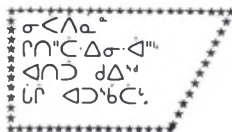
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|---------------------------------|------------|------------|------------------------------|------------|
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| | | | "B" CHAMPIONS \$6,000.00 | \$4,000.00 |
| | | | "C" CHAMPIONS \$3,000.00 | \$2,000.00 |
| WOMEN'S HOCKEY | \$800.00 | 6 | \$5,000.00 | \$3,000.00 |
| MEN'S RECREATIONAL HOCKEY (35+) | \$500.00 | 6 | \$3,000.00 | \$1,500.00 |
| WOMEN'S BROOMBALL | \$500.00 | 4 | \$2,500.00 | \$1,000.00 |
| MEN'S RECREATIONAL HOCKEY (21+) | \$500.00 | 4 | \$2,000.00 | \$1,000.00 |

This tournament has been organized to honour and pay tribute to the late Samson Dick - Youth and Member of the Tomahawks #89

FOR MORE INFORMATION

PLEASE CONTACT THE WFN SPORTS AND RECREATION

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